

What is Claimed:

1. A hand towed piece of baggage comprising:
a piece of baggage;
at least one wheel connected to the piece of baggage, the wheel having a wheel rotation axis;
5 an arm portion having a length with opposite proximal and distal ends, the proximal end of the arm portion being operatively secured to the piece of baggage; and
10 a towing handle operatively connected to the distal end of the arm portion for pivoting movement of the towing handle about at least two pivot axes relative to the arm portion.
2. The hand towed piece of baggage of claim 1, further comprising:
one of the at least two pivot axes being oriented substantially parallel to the wheel rotation axis.
3. The hand towed piece of baggage of claim 1, further comprising:
the at least two pivot axes comprising a first axis and second axis that intersect each other.
4. The hand towed piece of baggage of claim 1, further comprising:
the arm portion being movable between extended and retracted positions relative to the piece of baggage such
5 that the towing handle is closer to the piece of baggage when the arm is in the retracted position than when the arm is in the extended position.

5. The hand towed piece of baggage of claim 4, further comprising:

the arm portion being comprised of at least two telescoping sections that are slidably attached to each other for relative telescoping movement, the relative telescoping movement allowing the arm portion to be movable between the extended and the retracted positions.

6. The hand towed piece of baggage of claim 1, further comprising:

an intermediary member operatively connecting the handle to the arm portion, the intermediary member being pivotally connected to the arm portion for pivotal movement of the intermediary member and the handle about a first one of the at least two pivot axes relative to the arm portion, the intermediary member also being pivotally connected to the handle for pivotal movement of the handle about a second one of the at least two pivot axes relative to the intermediary member and the arm portion.

7. The hand towed piece of baggage of claim 6, further comprising:

the first one of the at least two pivot axes being oriented substantially parallel to the wheel rotation axis and the second one of the at least two pivot axes being oriented in a plane substantially perpendicular to the first one of the at least two pivot axes.

8. The hand towed piece of baggage of claim 7, further comprising:

the first one of the at least two pivot axes
intersecting the second one of the at least two pivot
5 axes.

9. The hand towed piece of baggage of claim 1,
further comprising:

the towing handle being T-shaped and comprising an
elongated hand grip with opposite free ends and a stem
5 that intersects and projects from the hand grip between
the opposite free ends, the stem operatively connecting
the towing handle to the arm portion.

10. The hand towed piece of baggage of claim 9,
further comprising:

the arm portion being movable between extended and
retracted positions relative to the piece of baggage such
5 that the towing handle is closer to the piece of baggage
when the arm portion is in the retracted position than
when the arm portion is in the extended position.

11. The hand towed piece of baggage of claim 10,
further comprising:

the opposite free ends of the hand grip defining a
hand grip axis that extends from one of the opposite free
5 ends to the other of the opposite free ends, the pivotal
movement between the towing handle and the arm portion
about the at least two pivot axes allowing the hand grip
axis to be oriented horizontally in a plane perpendicular
to the wheel rotation axis when the arm portion is in the
10 extended position and the piece of baggage is being hand
towed, the pivotal movement between the towing handle and
the arm portion about the at least two pivot axes also
allowing the hand grip axis to be oriented parallel to

the wheel rotation axis when the arm portion is in the
15 retracted position.

12. The hand towed piece of baggage of claim 9,
further comprising:

an intermediary member operatively connecting the
handle to the arm portion, the intermediary member being
5 pivotally connected to the arm portion for pivotal
movement of the intermediary member and the handle about
a first one of the at least two pivot axes relative to
the arm portion, the intermediary member also being
10 pivotally connected to the stem of the handle for pivotal
movement of the handle about a second one of the at least
two pivot axes relative to the intermediary member and
the arm portion.

13. The hand towed piece of baggage of claim 12,
further comprising:

the first one of the at least two pivot axes being
oriented substantially parallel to the wheel rotation
5 axis and the second one of the at least two pivot axes
being oriented in a plane substantially perpendicular to
the first one of the at least two pivot axes.

14. A hand towed piece of baggage comprising:
a piece of baggage;

at least one wheel connected to the piece of
baggage, the wheel having a wheel rotation axis;
5 an arm portion having a length with opposite
proximal and distal ends, the proximal end of the arm
portion being operatively secured to the piece of
baggage;

a towing handle; and

- 10 a means for operatively connecting the towing handle to the distal end of the arm portion in a manner that allows the towing handle to pivot about at least two pivot axes relative to the arm portion.

15. The hand towed piece of baggage of claim 14, further comprising:

- 5 a first one of the at least two pivot axes being oriented substantially parallel to the wheel rotation axis and a second one of the at least two pivot axes being oriented in a plane substantially perpendicular to the first one of the at least two pivot axes.

16. The hand towed piece of baggage of claim 15, further comprising:

- 5 the first one of the at least two pivot axes intersecting the second one of the at least two pivot axes.

17. The hand towed piece of baggage of claim 14, further comprising:

- 5 the arm portion being movable between extended and retracted positions relative to the piece of baggage such that the towing handle is closer to the piece of baggage when the arm portion is in the retracted position than when the arm portion is in the extended position.

18. The hand towed piece of baggage of claim 17, further comprising:

- 5 the towing handle being T-shaped and comprising an elongated hand grip that comprises opposite free ends that define a hand grip axis that extends from one of the opposite free ends to the other of the opposite free

ends, the means for operatively connecting the towing handle to the distal end of the arm portion allowing the hand grip axis to be oriented horizontally in a plane perpendicular to the wheel rotation axis when the arm portion is in the extended position and the piece of baggage is being hand towed, the means for operatively connecting the towing handle to the distal end of the arm portion also allowing the hand grip axis to be oriented parallel to the wheel rotation axis when the arm portion is in the retracted position

19. A method of operating a hand towed piece of baggage, the method comprising:

providing a piece of baggage having at least one wheel, an arm portion, and a towing handle, the at least one wheel being connected to the piece of baggage for rotation about a wheel rotation axis, the arm portion having a length with opposite proximal and distal ends, the proximal end of the arm portion being operatively secured to the piece of baggage, the towing handle being operatively connected to the distal end of the arm portion in a manner that allows the towing handle to pivot about at least two pivot axes relative to the arm portion, the arm portion being movable between extended and retracted positions relative to the piece of baggage such that the towing handle is closer to the piece of baggage when the arm portion is in the retracted position than when the arm portion is in the extended position, the towing handle comprising an elongated hand grip that defines a hand grip axis;

pivotally moving the towing handle relative to the arm portion about the at least two pivot axes in a manner such that the hand grip of the towing handle is oriented

with the hand grip axis extending horizontally in a plane perpendicular to the wheel rotation axis when the arm
25 portion is in the extended position and the piece of baggage is being hand towed; and

pivotally moving the towing handle relative to the arm portion about the at least two pivot axes in a manner such that the hand grip of the towing handle is oriented
30 with the hand grip axis extending parallel to the wheel rotation axis when the arm portion is in the retracted position.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising:

the pivotal motion of the towing handle relative to the arm portion about the at least two pivot axes occurring about a first one of the at least two pivot
5 axes that is oriented substantially parallel to the wheel rotation axis and about a second one of the at least two pivot axes that is oriented in a plane substantially perpendicular to the first one of the at least two pivot axes.